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SPECIFICATION PATENT

NO DRAWINGS

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SPECIFICATION No. 882,634

Page 2, line 43, for "pale and clear oil. The exhaustive after." read "and dried at 100° C. The extraction with" THE PATENT OFFICE 22nd December, 1961

15 one or more soluble components by solvent crable quantities or time solute particles in extraction is rarely suitable for the direct application of the extraction process on the raw material. In order that the extraction process shall be at all successful, the solvent must have easy access to and unrestricted drainage from the whole of the solute bearing material. Thus, the raw material must not be in the form of large lumps nor in the form of a fine powder, since these would prevent the solvent from percolat-ing through the solid. The practice hitherto, therefore, has been to roll the material into thin flakes, or break it up into small granules. In many cases, however, the raw material itself is initially in powder form, or if not in powder form, disintegrates into fine particles upon rolling or breaking up. In such cases, in addition to the difficulty referred to above in applying solvent extraction to such materials, the fine particles either of the powder form, or which are produced by the disintegration on rolling or breaking, tend to remain suspended in the miscella and often give rise to problems in the filtering of the material. Loss of material also

arises in these cases. It has been suggested that albuminous raw

suspension when separation is difficult.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method in which the raw material is prepared in such a form that the solvent percolates quite easily through the bed of raw material and has easy access to the solute bearing ducts or cells of the whole of the material.

According to the present invention, the vegetable matter containing one or more soluble components is rendered suitable for solvent extraction by mincing, extruding, granulating, pelleting or rolling it while moist and thereafter reducing its moisture content by drying. If the vegetable matter is initially not present in powder form then it is highly desirable that it should be ground or shredded before being treated in accordance with the invention, so as to open all solute bearing cells or ducts, to facilitate the formation of granules or extrusions, and to increase their formation. to increase their firmness as a result of coagulation of the albuminous matter.

The amount of water present in the material should be enough to impart sufficient plasticity to the material so that it can be minced, extruded, granulated, pelleted or